Lithuania: U.S. 'sold us out'

tas Landsbergis blasted President Bush Tuesday for not imposing economic sanctions on the Soviet Union.

"We were afraid that America might sell us out," Landsbergis said. "Can the freedom of one group of people be sold for the freedom of another?

"This is another Munich," he said, referring to the 1938 Munich Pact in which France and Britain allowed Nazi Germany to take control of Czechoslovakia — opening Europe's door to Adolph Hitler.

Facing reporters earlier, Bush quoted Yogi Berra, saying he didn't "want to make the wrong mistake" by doing anything "that compels the Soviet Union to take action that would set back the whole pace of freedom around the world."

In Lithuania Tuesday, the KGB tightened the economic noose on the rebel republic, stepping up patrols along the borders and offshore.

The sea patrols came as Lithuanian officials shopped in Europe for petroleum supplies to replace oil and natural gas cut off by the Soviet blockade.

New supplies would have to be brought in by ocean tankers.

Also Tuesday, Tass reported that a Soviet army officer in Vilnius said a shot was fired through a barracks window. No one was hit.

Bush, who earlier held out the threat of an "appropriate" response to the Soviet economic blockage, Tuesday asked the Soviets and Lithuanians to start a peaceful "dialogue."

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfiliev had warned that sanctions may have "negative consequences."

Congressional leaders backed Bush's decision:

▶ House Speaker Thomas Foley, D-Wash. Bush "is proceeding carefully" and "that is the appropriate course."

▶ Foreign Relations chairman Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I. There's a "feeling of support."

Leaders in 20 allied countries also supported Bush.

But Rep. Dante Fascell, D-Fla., chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, said Bush should postpone the upcoming summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to "send a message all around the world."